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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/825,270	04/03/2001	Alan Ramaley	60001.0004US01	1969
27488	7590	06/02/2005	EXAMINER	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION C/O MERCHANT & GOULD, L.L.C. P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			BASHORE, WILLIAM L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2176	

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/825,270

Applicant(s)

RAMALEY ET AL.

Examiner

William L. Bashore

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/25/2001</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: original application filed 4/03/2001. IDS filed 6/25/2001.
2. Claims 1-22 pending. Claims 1, 10 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernardo et al. (hereinafter Bernardo), U.S. Patent No. 6,247,032 issued June 2001.

In regard to independent claim 1, Bernardo teaches a method for selected user(s) creating/submitting authored web site content (i.e. a document), said content subject to approval by designated users pending publication (Bernardo Title, Abstract – especially at bottom). Bernardo teaches content creators creating proposed pages of a web site, said pages subject to authorized approval pending posting said pages as appropriate. In this fashion, overall web site development (a development environment), as well as publication and integration of various user content submissions within said web site is automated in an automatic workflow type environment (i.e. an original document is to be sent to various people accordingly) (see also Bernardo column 10 lines 1-9, 36-45).

Bernardo teaches a creator (composer) of a document editing/approving a page link within a browser area (i.e. tool) (Bernardo column 19 lines 40-53).

Bernardo teaches an email notification method associated with a document intended for review (Bernardo column 20 lines 1-13).

Bernardo does not specifically teach a return (reply) email from a reviewer. However, Bernardo's teaching of replying via scrolling for appropriate selection in response to an email notification to review a particular document (Bernardo column 20 lines 1-20) provides reasonable suggestion to the skilled artisan to reply via email as well. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to interpret this accordingly, providing the benefit of a well known method of sending information.

Bernardo teaches an approver set of processes (i.e. tools) (Bernardo column 20 lines 10-20).

Bernardo does not specifically teach comparing an RCID number, and storing in a file. However, Bernardo's teaching of an orderly routing of documents for review, along with specific parameters (Bernardo column 10 lines 64-67), along with routing order (Bernardo column 11 lines 1-5), suggests to the skilled artisan the use of a unique ID document number for keeping track of review, etc.. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to interpret this accordingly, providing the benefit of ID numbers for improved tracking.

In regard to dependent claim 2, Bernardo teaches a server, database, and client, etc. (Bernardo Figure 1).

In regard to dependent claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, Bernardo teaches an email with a link to a page requiring approval (Bernardo column 20 lines 5-10).

Adding an author's name, ID, email address (i.e. reply to address), and email header IDs to an email is well established in the relevant art.

In regard to dependent claims 5, 6, Bernardo does not specifically teach comparing an RCID number, and storing in a file. However, Bernardo's teaching of an orderly routing of documents for review, along with

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specific parameters (Bernardo column 10 lines 64-67), along with routing order (Bernardo column 11 lines 1-5), suggests to the skilled artisan the use of a unique ID document number for keeping track of review, etc.. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to interpret this accordingly, providing the benefit of ID numbers for improved tracking.

Bernardo teaches an email with a message alerting the user to a page requiring approval (Bernardo column 20 lines 1-13).

In regard to independent claim 10, claim 10 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claims 11-22, claims 11-22 incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claims 2-10, and are rejected along the same rationale.

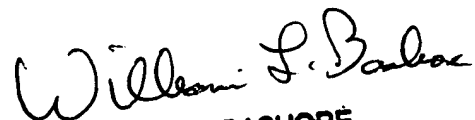
Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William L. Bashore whose telephone number is (571) 272-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:30am - 8:00pm EST.

6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

May 30, 2005